

## October Program

Presenter: Gail Necker

Gail's very first basketry class was a local park district offering. Since then she has traveled around the country studying and taking classes from many successful fiber artists learning about techniques, materials, and design. As she branched out, her interests took her to complementary techniques – beading, silversmithing, mosaics, kumihimo – knowing that someday it would all come together.

Upon discovering gourds, she realized they were the perfect foundation - they can become almost anything. They can stand alone or be married with almost any other kind of fiber - reed, vines, rattan, yarn, twine, even old sweaters. Staining, dyeing, and painting gourds allow them to explode with color - a vital element of her work which is all about colors and textures. Unique embellishments add the final focal point.

Join us at the October meeting for "The Ins and Outs of Gourds: Past, Present & Future of Gourd Art" as Gail tells us about gourd history, how they have been used traditionally, and how they are used today. And signup for the workshop after lunch to learn hands-on how to weave on top of a gourd to create your own, unique vessel.

### October Mini-Workshop

After the October meeting, there will be a Gourd Workshop. We will learn how to twine on top of a gourd and then finish our gourd vessel with a rolled border and embellishments. Gourds will be prepared ahead of time at Gail's house by those in the class who want to learn the actual prep work involved in gourd artistry - cleaning, cutting, scraping, drilling, and dyeing. Students should bring an old towel, scissors, an awl or small flat-head screwdriver, and a few wooden clip clothespins to class. And please wear old clothes or a work apron. If you are participating in the prep day, please wear old clothes and bring disposable gloves and grip-style gloves, if you have them.

Cost of the workshop is \$30; this includes materials, a pattern, and a page of examples for inspiration. There is no additional charge to learn the prep aspect prior to the workshop.

The workshop is open to the first 15 participants to sign up; there are just a few more openings, so don't delay. Call Gail at 719.687.6391